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Item 100 (bb) of the provisional agenda*
General and complete disarmament: taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations

Report of the United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination

I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 71/258 of 23 December 2016, the General Assembly decided to convene in New York, under the rules of procedure of the General Assembly unless otherwise agreed by the conference, a United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination, from 27 to 31 March and from 15 June to 7 July 2017, with the participation and contribution of international organizations and civil society representatives. In addition, the General Assembly decided that the conference would hold a one-day organizational session in New York, to be held as soon as possible after the adoption of the resolution. The organizational session was held on 16 February 2017.

II. Organizational matters and proceedings of the conference

A. Opening and duration of the conference

2. The United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination, was convened at United Nations Headquarters on 16 February 2017, 27 to 31 March 2017, and 15 June to 7 July 2017. The list of participants is contained in document A/CONF.229/2017/INF.4.

3. The conference was opened on 16 February 2017 by the Secretary-General of the conference and Director and Deputy to the High-Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Thomas Markram. At the same session, Elayne Whyte Gómez (Costa Rica) was elected President of the conference. The Acting President of the General Assembly, Masud Bin Momen (Bangladesh) and the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Kim Won-soo, made statements at the opening of the conference.

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4. The conference held its organizational session on 16 February, during which two plenary meetings and one informal meeting were convened. At its first plenary meeting, the conference took decisions related to the agenda of its organizational session and of the March and June sessions of the conference (see paras. 6 and 7). The conference also took note of the draft indicative timetable for the meetings of its March session (A/CONF.229/2017/3). At the second meeting of its organizational session, the conference adopted a decision regarding the modalities and arrangements for participation by non-governmental organizations (A/CONF.229/2017/4).

B. Rules of procedure

5. At the 2nd meeting of the March session, on 27 March, the conference adopted its rules of procedure (A/CONF.229/2017/L.1), as orally revised, which was subsequently issued as document A/CONF.229/2017/5.

C. Agenda and organization of work

6. At the 1st meeting of its organizational session, on 16 February, the conference adopted the agenda of its organizational session (A/CONF.229/2017/1), as orally revised, as follows:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda.
4. Organizational matters:
   (a) Draft provisional agenda of the conference;
   (b) Draft proposed organization of work of the conference;
   (c) Draft provisional rules of procedure of the conference;
   (d) Credentials of representatives to the conference;
   (e) Arrangements for the accreditation and participation of international organizations, United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and civil society representatives.
5. Preparations for the conference.
6. Other matters.
7. Closure of the session.

7. At the same meeting, the conference adopted the provisional agenda of the conference (A/CONF.229/2017/2) as follows, on the understanding that an additional sub-item might be added under item 11.

1. Opening of the conference.
2. Election of the President.
3. Adoption of the agenda.
4. Adoption of the rules of procedure.
5. Organization of work.
6. Election of other officers.

7. Credentials of representatives to the conference:

   (a) Appointment of members of the Credentials Committee;

   (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.

8. General exchange of views:

   (a) High-level segment;

   (b) General exchange of views on all matters.

9. Negotiations, pursuant to paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 71/258 of 23 December 2016, on a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination.

10. Other matters.

11. Adoption of the report of the conference.

12. Closure of the conference.

8. At its 10th, 11th, 20th and 23rd plenary meetings, on 31 March, 15 June, 23 June and 30 June, the conference considered the indicative timetable for meetings of the conference at its second substantive session, as proposed by the President (A/CONF.229/2017/3/Add.1 and Add.1/Rev.1, A/CONF.229/2017/3/Add.2 and A/CONF.229/2017/3/Add.3).

D. Officers

9. The composition of the Bureau of the conference was as follows:

President:
Elayne Whyte Gómez (Costa Rica)

Vice-Presidents:
Austria
Chile
Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Morocco
New Zealand
South Africa

E. Documentation

10. The documents of the conference are listed in the annex to the present report.

III. Credentials

11. Pursuant to rule 4 of the rules of procedure of the conference (A/CONF.229/2017/5), according to which the Credentials Committee shall be composed of five members, the conference appointed Azerbaijan, Malawi, Paraguay, Sri Lanka and Sweden as members of its Credentials Committee.

12. At the 28th meeting of the conference, on 7 July, the Chair of the Credentials Committee introduced the report of the Committee (A/CONF.229/2017/7), in which the Committee reported that it had examined the credentials of the representatives of States participating in the conference and found them to be in order. The Chair also

informed the conference that, since the formal meeting of the Committee, credentials in the form required by rule 3 of the rules of procedure of the conference had been received from Haiti and that other information concerning the appointment of representatives of States to the conference had been received from Chad, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Grenada, Sierra Leone and Timor-Leste. The conference adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Credentials Committee in paragraph 14 of its report, and accepted the additional credentials mentioned by the Chair of the Credentials Committee.

IV. Consideration and adoption of the final documents of the conference and the report of the conference to the General Assembly

13. The conference held 29 plenary meetings from 27 to 31 March and 15 June to 7 July 2017,[1] at which it considered and negotiated the text of the legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination under agenda item 9.

14. At its 28th meeting, on 7 July, the conference adopted the text of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons by 122 votes to 1, with 1 abstention (A/CONF.229/2017/8).[2] The Treaty will be open for signature to all States at United Nations Headquarters in New York as from 20 September 2017. After the vote, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of El Salvador (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Lebanon (on behalf of the Arab Group), South Africa, Trinidad and Tobago (on behalf of the Caribbean Community), Cuba, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the State of Palestine, Brazil, Ecuador, Paraguay, Malaysia, Peru, Argentina, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, the Holy See, Liechtenstein, Egypt, Switzerland, Sweden, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Austria, Singapore, Guatemala, the Marshall Islands, the Philippines (also on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations), Thailand, Algeria, Panama, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Ireland and the Plurinational State of Bolivia.

15. At its 29th meeting, on 7 July, the conference adopted its report to the General Assembly by consensus.

[1] The archived webcast of the plenary meetings is available at http://bit.ly/2t8XaNm.

[2] Subsequently, the delegation of Maldives informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

Annex

Documentation

The conference had before it the following documents:

Symbol	*Title/description*
A/CONF.229/2017/1	Provisional agenda of the organizational session
A/CONF.229/2017/2	Provisional agenda of the conference
A/CONF.229/2017/3	Indicative timetable for the meetings of the conference (27-31 March)
A/CONF.229/2017/3/Add.1 and Rev.1	Indicative timetable for the meetings of the conference (15-23 June)
A/CONF.229/2017/3/Add.2	Indicative timetable for the meetings of the conference (26-30 June)
A/CONF.229/2017/3/Add.3	Indicative timetable for the meetings of the conference (3-7 July)
A/CONF.229/2017/4	Participation of non-governmental organizations in the conference
A/CONF.229/2017/5	Rules of procedure of the United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination
A/CONF.229/2017/6	Note verbale dated 20 June 2017 from the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination
A/CONF.229/2017/7	Report of the Credentials Committee
A/CONF.229/2017/L.1	Provisional rules of procedure of the conference
A/CONF.229/2017/L.2	Draft report of the United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination
A/CONF.229/2017/L.3 and Rev.1	Draft treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons, submitted by the President of the conference
A/CONF.229/2017/INF/1 and Corr.1	Information for participants: note by the Secretariat
A/CONF.229/2017/INF/2 and Add.1	Information for civil society representatives: note by the Secretariat
A/CONF.229/2017/INF/3	List of non-governmental organizations
A/CONF.229/2017/INF/4	List of participants
A/CONF.229/2017/CRP.1	Draft treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons

Symbol	*Title/description*
A/CONF.229/2017/CRP.2	Comments submitted by the International Committee of the Red Cross
A/CONF.229/2017/WP.1	Working paper submitted by the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean
A/CONF.229/2017/WP.2	Working paper submitted by the International Committee of the Red Cross
A/CONF.229/2017/WP.3	Working paper submitted by Colombia
A/CONF.229/2017/WP.4	Working paper submitted by Papua New Guinea
A/CONF.229/2017/WP.5	Working paper submitted by Sweden
A/CONF.229/2017/WP.6	Working paper submitted by Chile, Sweden and Uganda
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.1	Working paper submitted by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.2	Working paper submitted by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.3	Working paper submitted by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.4	Working paper submitted by Mayors for Peace
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.5	Working paper submitted by PAX
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.6	Working paper submitted by Basel Peace Office, Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament and Unfold Zero
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.7	Working paper submitted by Peace Depot
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.8	Working paper submitted by Soka Gakkai International
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.9	Working paper submitted by Japan Council against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs (Gensuikyo)
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.10	Working paper submitted by Article 36
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.11	Working paper submitted by International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, World Medical Association, World Federation of Public Health Associations and, International Council of Nurses
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.12	Working paper submitted by International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.13	Working paper submitted by International Association of Lawyers against Nuclear Arms
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.14	Working paper submitted by International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN)
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.15	Working paper submitted by Mayors for Peace

Symbol	*Title/description*
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.16	Working paper submitted by Global Security Institute
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.17	Working paper submitted by Nuclear Age Peace Foundation
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.18	Working paper submitted by Arms Control Association
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.19	Working paper submitted by Peace Boat
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.20	Working paper submitted by DIYNGO
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.21	Working paper submitted by International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.22	Working paper submitted by Pace University
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.23	Working paper submitted by Abolition des Armes Nucléaires — Maison de Vigilance
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.24	Working paper submitted by Mines Action Canada
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.25	Working paper submitted by Soka Gakkai International
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.26	Working paper submitted by Los Alamos Study Group
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.27	Working paper submitted by Los Alamos Study Group
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.28	Working paper submitted by Los Alamos Study Group
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.29	Working paper submitted by Los Alamos Study Group
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.30	Working paper submitted by International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.31	Working paper submitted by Center for International Security and Policy
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.32	Working paper submitted by International Human Rights Clinic, Human Rights Program at Harvard Law School
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.33	Working paper submitted by International Human Rights Clinic, Human Rights Program at Harvard Law School
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.34	Working paper submitted by International Human Rights Clinic, Human Rights Program at Harvard Law School
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.35	Working paper submitted by Abolition des Armes Nucléaires — Maison de Vigilance
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.36	Working paper submitted by Pace University
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.37	Working paper submitted by International Association of Lawyers against Nuclear Arms
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.38	Working paper submitted by International Association of Lawyers against Nuclear Arms
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.39	Working paper submitted by Nuclear Age Peace Foundation
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.40	Working paper submitted by PAX

Symbol	*Title/description*
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.41	Working paper submitted by Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (Italy) in collaboration with Disarmisti Esigenti
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.42	Working paper submitted by Peace Boat
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.43	Working paper submitted by Amplify Youth Network — Generation of Change
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.44	Working paper submitted by Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (Italy) in collaboration with Disarmisti Esigenti
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.45	Working paper submitted by Global Security Institute
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.46	Working paper submitted by Princeton University
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.47	Working paper submitted by International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN)
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.48	Working paper submitted by Action des citoyens pour le désarmement nucléaire
A/CONF.229/2017/NGO/WP.49	Working paper submitted by Arms Control Association